

Missouri School for the Deaf

Superintentionally Superintendent's Newsletter

October 2004

Barbara Garrison
Superintendent

Tom Bastean Assistant Superintendent

> Tom Zengel Business Manager

Dr. Allan Ensor Student & Outreach Services

> Richard Keller Residential Life

Melodie Friedebach Assistant Commissioner Special Education DESE

Board of Advisors

John Bell President, Fulton

Cyndra McDavid VP, Holts Summit

Harold Hankins Kansas City

> Bobby Graff Joplin

Brenda Weggemann St. Louis



Barbara Garriso

MSD has gotten off to an exciting school year. Our maintenance, custodial and support staff had a very busy summer. In addition to their regular work schedule, they did an extraordinary job renovating offices and classrooms and moving our middle school into the Wheeler Building. The entire project was

completed with minimal disruptions and in fine style and right on schedule.

In the first month of the 2004-05 school year we have hosted five major events—the Halverson Memorial; a visit from the members of our State Board of Education, DESE Commissioner and Assistant Commissioners; a 9-11 Celebration; Fall Homecoming with our guest and rival, KSD; and the MSD Board of Advisors first meeting. In addition, students and staff marched in a parade and performed at a rally celebrating the city of Fulton's 9-11 Remembrance.

MSD begins the school year with enrollment is at the same level as this time last year and we anticipate serving more children this year.

We received an increase in our operating budget.

The budget reflects an increase in state funds and a decrease in federal funds.

The campus-wide emergency warning system is being installed in all buildings with a projected completion date of January 2005.

Two of our buildings (Student Services and

the Coates Career & Technology Center) have new roofs and the Rice building is undergoing an asbestos abatement.

Our swimming pool has a new pump and our kitchen has a new walk-in freezer. The Printing, Computer Graphics and Woodworking classrooms of the Career and Technology Center have new equipment updating them with the equipment necessary to train students for competitive employment. The Media Center has upgraded media production equipment, computers and software technology and plans are underway to buy a new bus accommodating 71 passengers.

The 2004 yearbooks are in production stage with a projected completion date of October 31st. Yearbooks will be mailed to 2004 graduates.

The Captioned Media Program (CMP) is open year-round to provide families, schools and individuals "free" captioned movies (educational and entertainment). For an application to take advantage of this free service, please write the Captioned Media Program in our Media Center at cmp@msd.k12.mo.us or call 573-592-2543.

MSD is proud to be Missouri's program for bilingual/bicultural education for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students and to serve as a Resource Center for you, the families and public school districts of Missouri.





Ingle Award

Each year, MSD awards its prestigious Ingle Award to an individual or organization in recognition for outstanding leadership and advocacy for the Deaf community. This year, the Ingle Award is presented to retiring MSD Audiologist, Judy Bastean. During her many years at MSD, Judy was also a strong advocate for the Deaf community and families of Deaf/HH children. It was through her efforts that "newborn hearing screenings are now performed in hospitals in Missouri. Judy was presented an engraved "Alice" award recognizing her as the Ingle Award winner.



Judy Bastean ~ 2004 Ingle Award Winner

Soaring Eagle Award

September

Scott Horton, Computer Technologist, was been selected September's Employee of the Month. The "Soaring Eagle" award was presented to Scott by his supervisor, Tom Zengel at a staff meeting of his division. Superintendent Garrison made surprise "drop in" to share the celebration.



Scott Horton receives the "Soaring Eagle" award from his supervisor, Tom Zengel, Business Manager.

Scott's nominator noted that: "Scott has been employed at MSD for 9 years. When problems arise, he remedies them quickly and accurately. Remediation takes place evenings, weekends and holidays even when he is scheduled to be off work. He and only he maintains our entire campus computer system. He works mostly behind the scenes and we don't see much of him, but think of the majority of days that you come to work and have access to your computer. Our computer system is rarely down and the rare time that the system is down, it is only for a short period of time. In addition he is a skillful instructor. Scott truly goes above and beyond."

Congratulations Scott!

October

Patsy Craghead, Librarian, has been selected as the October's Employee of the Month. The "Soaring Eagle" award was presented to Patsy at a division staff meeting on October 1st by Superintendent Garrison.



Patsy Craghead receives the "Soaring Eagle" award from Superintendent Garrison.

Patsy's nominator noted that: "Patsy is incredible. For more than 20 years she has quietly, but effectively served students, faculty and staff as Librarian. She is the originator of the 'Reading is Fundamental' program and the annual Book Fair. This year Patsy had a huge task of combining the middle and high school libraries. She did not complain and used time during her summer break to accomplish the task. Patsy spent many long hours inputting data to transition our school's library to a computerized system using bar code check-out. Even under stress, Patsy remains easy to approach. She is willing to help with any job she is asked to do and does not seek out praise or recognition. That is why Patsy should be recognized as employee of the month."

Congratulations Patsy!

MSD recognizes employees monthly through nominations by their peers and committee selection. Nomination forms can be obtained through the MSD Intranet, Supervisors, and the Human Resources office. Recipients of the "Soaring Eagle" award are also nominated for the DESE Employee of the Month. Monthly "Soaring Eagle" award winners are also eligible for the annual "Soaring Eagle" award. We encourage all employees to nominate deserving employees for this recognition.

MSD Parents Organization (MSDPO)



We love our

Parents Organization!

Through their fund-raising efforts,
We retired our old MSD EAGLE
And adopted a new one!



State Service Awards

Staff members are recognized annually for years of service with MSD and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. We are honored to have so many outstanding employees recognized for their longevity with MSD. The individuals in the groups pictured below reflect 305 years of experience at MSD!



Retirees

Three MSD employees retired before the 2004-05 school year began. Judy Bastean, Audiologist; Roy Morris, Bakery Instructor; and Cindy Simmons, Custodian. We wish them an enjoyable retirement.

20 Years







State Board of Education Visit

On September 9th, the members of the State Board of Education, DESE Commissioner and Assistant Commissioners held their regularly scheduled meeting on the MSD campus. With the exception of Assistant Commissioner of Special Education, Melodie Friedebach, Tom Davis, Chairman of the Board, was the only member of the group that had visited MSD previously. The Board meeting was held in the Eagles' Nest. After a presentation by Superintendent Garrison, students lead a tour of the MSD campus. The visitors were most impressed with our students, the beauty of the campus, the elementary cottages, the consolidation of the middle school and high schools into Wheeler Hall and the MSD museum.



Superintendent Garrison presents "State of MSD" report to State Board of Education

Britney and Johnny serve as tour guides.

MSD Elementary Student Wins National Poetry Contest

Last November, two MSD students—fourth grader, Victoria and third grader—Sevilla, were among the five district winners in the Fulton Garden Club's Poetry Contest.

The students' poems were then sent to compete for the state award and the winners were announced at the state's annual convention. The poems of the state winners' were submitted into national competition.



MSD is proud to announce that Victoria has been selected as the winner of the National Garden Club Poetry Contest. She will be presented the award before students and staff on October 20th in Ingle Auditorium.



Sevilla and Victoria presenting their poems

Congratulations Victoria!

Missouri Deaf Anglers Support Youth Leadership

The Midwest Deaf Bass Anglers presented MSD with a check for \$580 in support of Deaf Youth Leadership Camp and leadership training activities through the Jr. NAD Club. The MDBA fosters



and develops sportsmanship and fellowship among deaf/hard of hearing anglers and is affiliated with the National Bass Association of the Deaf.

Thank you MDBA so much!

Pictured are Assistant Superintendent, Tom Bastean, Patricia Wilson from the Deaf Bass Anglers Association and Superintendent Garrison. The check was presented at the Fall Homecoming on September 25th.

Halverson Memorial ... Remembering Our Teacher & Friend



Trisha Halverson Middle School Teacher

On Friday, August 27, 2004 students, staff, family and friends gathered in Ingle Auditorium to celebrate the life of Trisha Halverson, our beloved teacher and friend, who died in a motorcycle accident earlier in the summer.

A photographic display of Trisha's years at MSD and her travels filled the lobby of the auditorium. After the memorial service, a picnic lunch was served in the Alice Courtyard where magnolia trees have been planted in memory of Trisha. This occasion allowed us to come together and share the enormous impact Trish has

made on all of our lives. We will sadly miss her familiar presence.









9-11 Memorial

For almost two years, students in the National Honor Society and Middle and High Schools Student Council at MSD have been raising funds to buy materials, sending "care packages" and becoming "pen pals" with troops while they were serving on active duty in Iraq, Kosovo and Afghanistan.

On September 11, 2004, MSD honored the 175th MP Battalion of the Missouri National Guard, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and our MSD employees who are veterans. Students had the opportunity to share letters written by the troops and the National Guard had an opportunity to tell us of the work they have done with children and civilians abroad.



Outreach Services

The <u>Resource Center</u> on Deafness (RCD) at the Missouri School for the Deaf in Fulton, serves as an information source for teachers, principals, and special education directors who work with deaf and hard-of-hearing children and their families. The Center provides many services, all at no cost to parents or school districts. Contact us for more information.

<u>Project Outreach</u> is a program designed to work directly in the homes of deaf/hard of hearing children ages birth-five. This program is provided at no charge to any family in the 1st Steps Program or an Early Childhood Special Education Program in Missouri. The families receive information



about deafness, how the ear works, assistive technology, communication methodologies, and language experiences. The purpose of the home program is to assist families in understanding their child's hearing loss and to strengthen the families awareness of deafness. Contact us for more information.

The <u>Captioned Media Program</u> (CMP) utilizes U.S. Department of Education funds to select, caption, & distribute captioned media. These materials are open-captioned* and loaned **free of charge** to deaf and hard of hearing persons, their families, teachers, and others who work with the deaf and hard of hearing. These videos include theatrical movies, as well as special interest and educational titles. Contact us to establish an <u>account number</u> so that you can access over 5,000 titles.

Developing a program for a deaf or hard-of-hearing child requires specialized knowledge. Members of the clinical staff are available for on-site, center-based or phone <u>Consultations</u>. These services are provided at no charge, so give us a call at 573-592-2544 or <u>contact us</u> by email.

Fall Homecoming

Branndon and Helen were selected by their peers as King and Queen for the 2004 Fall Homecoming.



Family Outdoor Skills Camp

For the third year, MSD has teamed with the Missouri Department of Conservation to offer the

Family Outdoor Skills Camp.



This is an opportunity for families with children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing that are enrolled in public schools and the Missouri School for the Deaf to come together for activities and information sharing. The weekend camp provides good food, workshops, fellowship and a variety of recreational activities at



NO COST for families.

The Family Outdoor Skills Camp also includes activities previously offered through MSD's Family Fun and Learning Retreat.

Information about the Family Outdoor Skills Camp, is available by contacting the Residential Life Program at 573-592-2508 or dkeller@msd.k12.mo.us. Call now to get your name on the list for next

year!





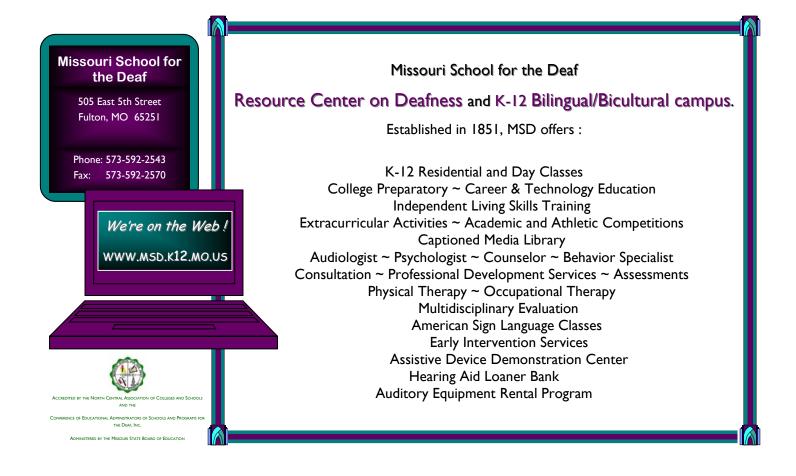












MSD Participates in Fulton's 9-11 Remembrance

On September 11, 2004 Fulton sponsored a parade and rally in remembrance of the terrorist

attacks in New York, Washington, DC and Pennsylvania. The ceremony was planned by Fulton and surrounding areas fire departments and held in the Wal-Mart parking lot on Bluff Street. In addition to marching in the parade, the MSD Signing Eagles performed "God Bless the USA" for the participants.



Kira and Halley